



Come Picnic With Your Friends

PUT ASIDE SOME TIME. The OSA will hold its annual Family Picnic on Sunday, August 24 at Theodore Stone Grove #1 (see map attached). This grove, the site of last year's picnic, has a beautiful pavilion and lots of space for the whole family.

Several activities are planned for this year's event. Once again, the 60's staff is challenging the youngsters from the 70's and 80's in a volleyball tournament. Last year's defeat at the hands of the 80's staff was, they assure us, only a temporary setback. This year, Tiny is actively recruiting members for the 60's comeback. Tiny, by the way, is eligible to play on all three teams, but the 60's staff has made him a terrific offer to give up his free agent status. Other activities such as softball and horseshoes will also be featured during the day.

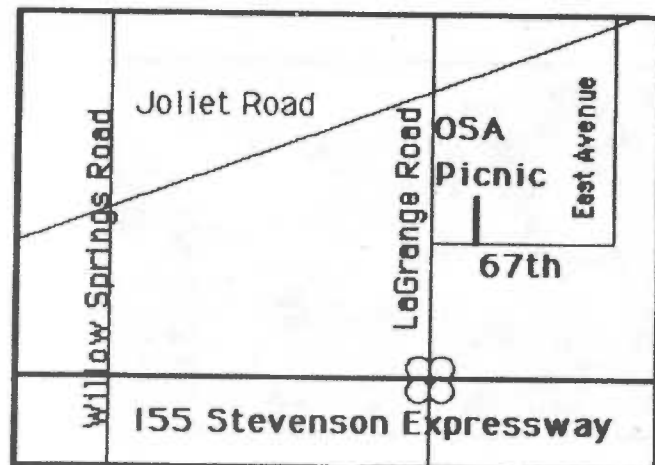
Don't forget the kids because the planners of the day haven't. Bruce Dreschel, the coordinator of this year's event, has planned a variety of children's games and races, something for all ages. We'll have prizes and awards for every child. A few other surprises are planned for the kids: face-painting, helium balloons, and much, much more.

We also invite the members of the present camp staff to spend a day with us. The day provides an excellent opportunity for them to meet back in the city after their summer at Owasppe and to share some stories with the

staffs from the past, who are always excited by news from camp.

The OSA annual picnic offers a great opportunity to meet with old friends in the informal setting of a lazy Sunday afternoon. Grab the lawn chairs, the cooler, as many friends as you can load in the car, and some munchies and come on out for the day. Last year, about 150 members of the OSA and their families and friends participated in the day's events.

The grove opens at 10 a.m. Members may want to bring tables and chairs.



Theodore Stone Grove #1
67th Street East of LaGrange Road

President's Perspective

by Pat Monahan



At the Spring FIX-IT, I purchased for my children 75th anniversary T-shirts. I don't usually go in for such memorabilia, but the shirt appealed to me, for it had a circular design on the back comprised of the names of all the camps which have at one time or another made up the Owasippe Scout Reservation. Like many of us, I'm sure, I felt a strong affiliation for one of the names on the design. I first staffed at Camp Stuart and stayed at Owasippe long enough to become its director. When it closed in 1978, I mourned its passing.

The shirt had a message for me. It reminded me that Owasippe is more than the sum of its parts. It remains, though the names by which we describe it change. For this reason, perhaps, I appreciate the E. Urner Goodman Museum at Owasippe. Here, one sees the rich traditions of Owasippe merging in one time and place.

I have always respected the traditions of Owasippe and the people who passed them along. Every generation of

staff leaves Owasippe, some abruptly, but somehow the traditions remain. In 1968, my first year on staff, I witnessed such a change. Marshall Mortenson (Mort) was entering his 10th and last year on the Stuart Staff. Norb Hulbert was completing his last year at Dan Beard. During that summer, I watched and learned. From Chris Chinnard at an O.A. banquet, I learned to sing "Allouette," with just the right patter to match the arrogance of the song. I learned to sing "Let Us Sing Together" by watching Mort settle a noisy dining hall with its quiet rhythms. These were special staff members, who cared deeply about Owasippe and took time to teach my friends and me how it was done. In 1969 all of them were gone, but the skill and dedication with which they worked remained.

Many of us have mourned the passing of a camp and seen our generation leave Owasippe, but I'm convinced they never really leave. The Owasippe Staff Association is evidence of their presence, but they would be here even if the OSA did not exist. The OSA reminds us of those who passed before us, and more importantly offers a vehicle to carry all of us back to Owasippe, where we can once again participate in its rich traditions.

In May, we completed two field sports ranges, the most significant project in our history, and through them we affirmed our commitment to Owasippe and all that it represents. We celebrate that accomplishment in this newsletter, but we also highlight other projects, the roles our members play in training the present staffs and in developing the trails of Owasippe. The traditions of Owasippe are strong, and we celebrate them and participate in them in this its 75th year.



**Bringing Tradition Into the Future:
OSA Members Train Beginning Staff**

Perhaps nowhere is the OSA's commitment to tradition more evident than in the efforts of seven of its members who coordinate the OSR Staff Development Training Program. This program was developed in 1981, when Gordie Stiefel, Ron Kulak, and several other OSA members planned a program for first and second-year staff members. The goal of the program is to introduce young staff members to a "Reservation" perspective and to the long menu of services and programs offered to troops.

The program is not unlike the former CIT program (Counselors-In-Training) which was developed in the 1950's and ran, off and on, for many years. A number of OSA members acted as counselors and big brothers in the

former CIT program: Tom Crissey, Bill Dopke, Steve Horvath, Larry Putz, Jim Richerson, and George Sparks.

Since 1981, the training program has consisted of two separate divisions, which constitute two separate years of training, instead of the one year in the original CIT program. Ron Kulak now coordinates the program, and he is assisted by Mark Behnke, Frank Chlebek, John Grout, John Kosik, Chauncey Niziol and Joe Sener. The two divisions are the Staff Apprentice Program and the Staff Associate Program.

THE APPRENTICE PROGRAM

The prerequisites for the Staff Apprentice Program are Star rank, age 15 by the opening of camp, and at least 2 summer camping seasons at camp. Prior to final selections for the program, candidates are invited to a Spring "Shakedown Weekend" where they are introduced to staff concepts and oriented to reservation ways. It also gives the training staff an opportunity to observe tendencies, levels of interaction, and other traits necessary in a successful staff person.

Those apprentices selected will camp at Owasippe as a troop during staff week. During those 5 or 6 days together, they will visit each section camp and its respective staffs, walk the primary trails and see Owasippe's natural highlights, learn about the Outpost camps and the operation of Ad Center, canoe down the White River from Cisco's Rollaway to Canoe Central, do cross-country orienteering, run a lone-troop swim at Bass Lake, cook a meal without utensils, get instructions in aquatics, fieldsports, nature, and scoutcraft, plan and organize campfire programs, become familiar with the rules of the camp, and come to know what is expected of them as staff. Whew!!! Although they are trained by the Staff Development Training team, they receive much of their instruction from current staff at Owasippe.

After the tour-of-duty in camper canvas, the apprentices receive their initial assignments of position and camp. During the season, each apprentice will experience three different areas of responsibility and will work in three different camps. By the end of the summer, apprentices develop a unique awareness of the Reservation and of their own strengths and weaknesses. This apprentice year should have focused them toward a specialty area for which they may apply as a Staff Associate in their sophomore year at Owasippe.

Apprentices range from the strong to the meek, from leaders to followers, from soft-spoken eccentrics to outspoken fanatics, and each group represents a microcosm of future staffs. In addition to much information and lots of practical skills, apprentices leave the first-year program with appropriate nicknames. Some of the more memorable characters were named "Flounder," "Chigger," "Tuna," and "Pyro."

The stigma of grunt and peon is, unfortunately, still stuck on apprentices, and they, like their brothers and sisters before them, go through a rite of passage that in itself is a test of strengthened character. Despite starting at the bottom, despite getting every little job that comes along, despite getting a meager allowance of \$40 (a 400% increase over 1985), a number of the elite will join future staffs, become department heads and, perhaps, even camp directors. Two OSA members, Tim Fass and Mark Korall, began as CITs and remained at Owasippe to become directors.

THE ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

The associate training begins at the shakedown meeting in the spring. Here, second-year staff members receive the meat of their training, since their stay in training camp during staff week is much shorter. During staff week the associates spend from Saturday evening until Tuesday lunch at Camp Reneker increasing their understanding of troop program planning, song-leading techniques, dining hall operations, counseling skills, and many more concepts which help them to handle the many and varied problems they might face during the summer.

CHALLENGES

While both programs continue to function effectively, some challenges face the training team. At one time virtually all apprentices came from the Chicago Area Council. Despite increasing marketing efforts, however, the number of apprentices from Chicago continues to decrease. In contrast, the program seems to have wide appeal to suburban scouts, many of whose troops are camping at Owasippe on a regular basis. Almost half of those now in the program come from other Councils. Ron Kulak and others are working hard to attract more candidates from Chicago. This year they distributed information by mail to all Eagle scouts who attended Owasippe in the summer of 1985. The returns on their time and effort are evident in the quality of the candidates for this year's program.

Another problem which faces the apprentice program is that it must compete with other better-paying jobs. This year, for example, 45 young people were accepted for the program. Unfortunately, only 20 arrived at camp. Virtually all who rejected the opportunity of serving on staff said they had gotten better paying jobs. How sad that so many young people miss the opportunities for growth and development provided by staff life.

The program now moves its focus to recruitment for 1987. Ron asks that members of the OSA help, by identifying 14-year-olds who have the talents to be good staff members and by steering them into the program. With good candidates in the program, it will work effectively and meet its principal goals: to develop a more cohesive reservation staff and to encourage the continuity of staff services by retaining staff members for many years.

"To The Camp So Dear To Memory"



A Walk Through the Past: Buildings We Know and Knew

by Father John

Wherever one goes, one always looks at and for buildings. Surprising statement? Not really. Put together several old Owasippe campers and the conversation will quickly center around the buildings of their memories.

Any listing must begin with Witt's Log Cabin store, restaurant and motel that stood on the N.E. corner of Owasippe Rd. and Rt. 31. It was a favorite place for dauntless staff to sneak to at night for a Coke. Call them dauntless because to be caught off-camp was to be sent home on the next scout train.

On the way to the lower lake camps, one passes a building that never existed. Next to this non-building was a narrow two-track leading due south to the ill-fated Wheat settlement, whose buildings stood until the 1950's. Lets walk back to the non-building. For years, Arrow men collected money for a lodge to serve as an entrance to Owasippe. In the 1960's construction of the new camps doomed their plan. Where did it go? Well, trot on over to Ad Center and take a long look at the Info Booth. Isn't the roof shaped like an arrowhead pointing north? You've found it.

Our trek now takes us to a farmhouse which in the winter was the residence of Will Teall and in the summer the Owasippe Office, the fabled "Double O" of yesteryear. Squatting next door is a sheet metal shed which serves as post office, warehouse, and food storage building. Clustered to the west was ranger's country: a quonset hut, a small barn, and several 7 ft. square buildings on skids that housed the department heads and all their supplies. The saw mill had no covering. Down at the beach was the log cabin that was used for advancement and wet weather scouting.

Walking thru the woods to Dan Beard, one passes the well building with its "one lung" gasoline pump. The next stop is Beard and its huge parade ground (planted to trees about 1950) flanking the first, oldest and largest dining facility in all Scoutdom. It was built by the Chicago Board of Trade in either 1915 or 1918. In fact, Beard was the first permanent scout camp facility in the U. S.

The health lodge, strangely enough, is remembered by many, and people would come back to camp just to see it. The screen-sided 3-room building was grandly presided over by the bearded Dr. Gentles and his "hospital aide" who was often the camp bugler. This old building disappeared in time as did the cottages that housed the cooks, who for many years were Mrs. Teall and her mother. A scout could visit the health lodge during sick call or in an emergency (if accompanied by his leader) but never, never would he approach the cooks' cottages.

Lets not forget the famous "Saddlebags" in the hollow. One side housed the Catholic chaplain, the other the Order of the Arrow. The chapel was across the front. The building was heated by a fireplace. Later we learned that the Council did not own the property on which this building sat.

Travelling from Beard to Stuart was nearly always done along the beach, past the private cottages. On the way one could look up the hill to the Family Camp Lodge/Dining Hall with the staff-type tents marching down the hillside. This site was replaced in 1965 in favor of the \$5.00 a week Family Camp.

Trudge up the hill to a wondrous site; the massive, two-story blockhouse built by the old Garrison Chapter of the O.A. The first story was for handicraft (boiling horns and hooves for neckerchief slides), while the second was the sanctum sanctorum of the "indians" in camp, especially just before an ordeal or brotherhood ceremony. Just beyond it, overlooking Owasippe Lake stood Stuart's own log cabin, the province of scoutcraft and the scene of happiness for untold numbers of scouts. Then one sees the dining hall with its quaint painted beams. And then the O.M. /store.

These buildings still remain in the fond memories of campers. In our next issue, we'll wander over to the other side of the Reservation, which really did exist, though no Beard camper would admit it.

Follow-Up

Meeting the Challenge: Project Weekend Diary

Work on the project began at a Gee Lumber on Saturday August 10, where Bob Bavirsha supervised the loading of building materials on a flatbed trailer for transportation to Owasippe. Mike O'Reilly works for Western Intermodal Services Limited, which provided the vehicle and insurance for the trip, and Mike also arranged for a driver, Bill Linson, who donated his efforts to the Association. When the lumber arrived at Owasippe later that day, Tiny, who had travelled from Chicago, unloaded it. During the following week, Tony Krier cut lumber for the project.

On a cool, damp morning, Friday, August 16, a small crew comprised of Guy Gogliotti, Bruce Kreja (Scope), Pat Monahan, Dave and Steve Parrish, and Mike Sanchez began moving lumber and roofing materials out to the work sites at Carlen and Blackhawk. This work was completed by 3 p. m., at which time Bob Bavirsha, Bill Bavirsha, and Gale Stoffregan arrived from Chicago. The entire crew set out for Blackhawk, where they were joined by other early arrivals: Rich Clark, Dick Kavanaugh, Bill Morrison, and Ken Van Der Griend. This crew worked until dark, and when they left Blackhawk, the frame was nearly completed.

On Saturday, May 17, a full team of OSA members had arrived, more than eighty of them. They awoke to a pouring rain and readied for breakfast at Food Prep, 7 a.m. The weather lightened during breakfast, and in a damp mist, work crews headed to Blackhawk. Other crews, targeted for other work or not yet needed on the project, completed other jobs: demolishing an old fence at horse corral, cleaning the snack bar, inventorying goods at the Trading Post, and working at the Museum. By 10 a.m. the walls at Blackhawk had been raised, and workers were busy building the roof (Jim Small), securing the posts to the concrete foundation (Kevin and Beth Murphy), building inner railings (Mary Kay and Laura O'Reilly), building fences (Joe Sener and John Pischl) and building targets (Mike and Rich Schlager). At noon, Frank Chlebek and Gordie Stiefel arrived with lunch. After lunch, Bob Bavirsha split the crew, sending the larger group to begin work at Carlen.

At Blackhawk, work proceeded. Tony Krier and Bill Bavirsha started work on the storage building and a team of roofers began to shingle. By 4 p.m. most of the crew had travelled to Carlen, where they helped to raise the

walls. Everyone had learned their jobs at Blackhawk, and so work moved more quickly at Carlen. At 6 p.m. the skies darkened and the rangers notified us that a tornado warning was in effect. Still, everyone worked, until 7 p.m., when the skies opened in a torrent. Bob Bavirsha shut down the Carlen site, then hurried to Blackhawk, where he dragged the roofers down from the building.

Dinner at 8. Ken Young and his team had prepared a terrific dinner for the tired workers, right down to the fresh-picked asparagus. Throughout the weekend, the kitchen staff was flexible, varying meal times to facilitate work schedules. The rain continued throughout the evening, forcing cancellation of the planned campfire in the Village.



On Sunday, August 18, a crew of almost 50 attended breakfast at Food Prep, again in the rain. Not much talking here, just a lot of looks of determination, a brief thanks from Pat Monahan for their efforts, and workers returned to the sites. Gale Stoffregan returned to his skill saw, which he had operated non-stop for almost twelve hours the day before. George Morkes and Chuck Nagel stained the Blackhawk pavilion while the roofers continued their work. Rusty Martino and others put on the Carlen roof. Bill Bavirsha and Scott Weber began the next storage building. Rich Clark and Gina Woods continued work on the fences at Carlen. Rich had a special interest in the Carlen range because he is the range officer at Carlen this summer.

At 5 p.m. the building at Carlen was completed, all but the shingles, the targets, and some of the fence. Blackhawk was Done. About twenty workers remained until the end. Then tired and spent, these twenty began the long journey home—in a pouring rain.

On a single weekend, 80 dedicated members of the OSA had battled the elements to raise two buildings at Owasippe. The work was long and hard, and the time for sharing stories with friends much too limited, but no one

seemed to mind. Everyone left Owasippe knowing they had contributed; through the efforts of the total group, the OSA had accomplished an enormous project.

Special thanks are extended to Bill Morrison who arranged the weekend for us and worked on the ranges all three days and to Chauncey Nizioi who coordinated the weekend for the OSA. Not all the members and their friends who participated on the project are listed in this article, but we need to mention them all. We thank them for their superlative efforts:

Roger Bevans	Joe Klefeker	Jim Roesel
Donna Bjorkland	Judy Lee	Joseph Ruiz
Erv Brinkman	Whitt Lloyd	Linda Ruiz
Jerome Brown	Chris Maluta	Lupe Ruiz
Jerry Brown	John Maluta	Teryl Ruiz
Don Bryla	Roy Martino	Jim Sault
John Clement	Kevin Merrimak	Jim Schlicting
Jack Coussens	Rich Mueller	Theresa Small
Randy Dupuis	Terry Murphy	Jim Smolinski
Mike Finnegan	Lori Nizioi	Jim Smolinski
Pat Foster	Sheridan Nunn	Tina Stiefel
Craig Garner	Nancy O'Reilly	Don Studaven
John Grout	Phil Pappas	Joe Tyeptanar
Bob Halston	Mike Payne	Mary Tyeptanar
Chester Hernacki	Gil Pearcy	Dave Young

Jim Hoiden
Mary Huffman
George Johnson
Pat Jung

Reinhard Plaut
Bill Richerson
Jim Richerson

Ellie Young
Tony Young

Carlen Range/Project Completed

On the weekend of May 23,24,25, five OSA members returned to Owasippe to complete the work. John Sanchez and Chuck Nagel completed the staining of the Blackhawk range and then stained the Carlen range. They also coordinated a group of O.A. members who stained the fences at both sites. The OSA extends its thanks to these O. A. members for their assistance. Guy Gogliotti arrived on May 22 and laid four square of shingles on the Carlen roof. On Friday, Dave Parrish and Scope arrived to assist him. By Sunday, the roof at Carlen had been completed. Pat Monahan arrived later in the week to build and stain the targets at Carlen and to finish the fencing. Tony Krier concluded the work on the ranges when he installed the locks on the storage buildings. He then mounted plaques at each range. **"THIS FACILITY FUNDED AND BUILT BY THE MEMBERS OF THE OWASIPPE STAFF ASSOCIATION."**

A Letter of Thanks to the OSA

Mr. Patrick J. Monahan
President
Owasippe Staff Association

Dear Pat:

Please accept my deep gratitude and express my appreciation to "Chauncey" Nizioi, Bob Bavirsha, Tony Krier, and to all members of the Owasippe Staff Association for their generosity and hard work at Owasippe constructing two new rifle ranges, one at Blackhawk and one at Carlen.

I was truly impressed by the strong effort of so many, resulting in two very well constructed and much needed program facilities.

Needless to say, these structures will be meaningful in the lives of thousands of Scout Campers and will stand in recognition of the dedication and commitment of the members of the Owasippe Staff Association for many years to come.

Best wishes to all for the future, and, again, the sincerest thanks and appreciation of the Scouts and Scouters of the Chicago Area Council and all who camp at Owasippe.

Very Sincerely,

Nelson L. Carter
Scout Executive



Project Update

Trail Committee Completes Work, Readies Map of Owasippe

Members of the OSA Trail committee spent the week of April 19-26 marking the yellow trail through to Camp Splinter (formerly Diamond One), remarking river camp sites and re-routing a section of the Blue Trail. It was a week of major accomplishments.

The yellow trail is now marked with fleur-de-lis from the southwestern corner of Blue Lake, where the trail begins, to the intersection of Russell and Fruitvale Roads. After Fruitvale road, the committee marked with yellow paint, several gallons of which were donated by Gus Anderson of Southshore Decorating. The trail then proceeds along the blacktop to County Line Bridge, where it cuts into the woods to the sand road. The trail angles into the woods towards Hinchman's Halfway Camp. Hikers will view a dense hemlock forest, which makes this leg of the journey a very pleasant one indeed.

Closer to County Line Bridge, the committee had to use the road because land usage has increased and some no-trespassing signs have been posted. This has all sprung up since the route was first investigated two years ago. Still, the north side of the river is far less developed than the south bank.

The committee, with transportation provided by Bob Halston, next marked the river sites: Sherwood, Oil Well,

Diamond Bend, Hinchman's Halfway Camp, and the way into Canoe Central. The majority of the water now flows into the north channel of the river away from the channel that passes Cleveland Creek. Twin Rollaway has been entirely shut down by the DNR because the erosion problem has become so serious. Trees have been felled at the bottom to make landing difficult and a large mesh fence has been stretched across the top.

At the FIX-IT, members of the trail committee built a footbridge at Hinchman's Halfway Camp. They extend a hearty thank-you to Joe Klefeker who cut the logs for the bridge. The bridge over a minor channel was needed to make the site operational as a canoe put-in site. Hinchman's is ideal for afternoon canoe trips back to the Reservation.

The trail committee also changed the Blue Trail north of Owasippe Road. With the relocation of Camp Frontier from Wolverine to the old Blackhawk site, the trail passed through the new campsite. The markers now skirt the site to the west.

Finally, the trail committee, working with Jim Marshall, completed a new map of Owasippe. These maps were available during staff week. Also during staff week, Bill Dopke and Jim Richerson met with commissioners and members of the Pack and Paddle staff to discuss the trail renovation. Together, they toured some of the new trails and set-ins. Without a doubt, the trail committee accomplished much during the spring.

OSA Welcomes New Members

Three new members have joined the OSA in recent weeks. **Father Rich Emerson** comes to us from Calumet Council. He is currently serving as a Catholic chaplain at Owasippe. He was also a chaplain in 1984 at OSR. Fr. Rich is the administrator of Hoosier Boys Town in Schererville, Indiana. He celebrated his 8th anniversary as a priest on July 1. He has been active for 16 years in scouting. While in the seminary, he worked as an assistant scoutmaster with a mentally handicapped unit. He also served as scoutmaster of troop 236, Transatlantic Council in Rome, Italy. He was inducted into the Black Eagle Lodge while in Rome (Their patches are very rare.). Fr. Rich has been scout chaplain for the Gary, Indiana Diocese for the last eight years. He is presently a member of the executive board of the Calumet Council and of the Chaplain's Committee of the National Catholic Committee on Scouting. He received the Bronze Pelican, St. George Award, and the Silver Beaver Award in Calumet Council. About Owasippe, Fr. Rich says, "It's one of the finest camps I've ever been to."

Bob Gabric comes to us from Hinsdale, where he lives with his wife, Patty. Their children, Michael, Matt, and Patty are all grown (they're former staff village brats) and doing well in their endeavors. Bob served as a commissioner at Camp Robert Crown in 1974 and 1975. He was the head basketball coach at St. Ignatius High School for a number of years. He presently works for a major commercial insurance firm in Chicago.

Tom Grindstaff comes to the OSA from Huntertown, Indiana, where he lives with his wife, Joanne. Their children are Keith, 16, an Eagle Scout, and Chad, 13, a Life Scout. Tom was Owasippe Reservation Director of Program in 1966 and Director of Camp Wilderness in 1967. Tom was a professional scouter from 1969-1973. Since then, he has been in the insurance business, and currently runs his own agency. Tom asks that old friends write him (P. O. Box 96; 15605 Linra Road; 46748) or call (219-637-8505).

Newsbriefs

Council Plans Major Hoover Expansion

A two-phase plan to develop the Hoover Scout Reservation as a combination Cub Scout Outdoor Program Center and Barrier-Free Outdoor Education Center for the handicapped has been developed. With the expansion of the cubbing program, an anticipated 45,550 cub scouts will soon be members of the ten scout councils in the Chicago metropolitan area. The planned expansion of Hoover will provide a much-needed facility for these scouts. It will also provide expanded facilities for boy scouts who will continue to use Hoover.

The expansion will also provide a much-needed facility for handicapped children. Steve Horvath, who has provided much of the energy behind the planned expansion, notes that there are over 100,000 handicapped youngsters in the Chicago metropolitan area who now have no access to a year-round facility for education, recreation, and personal development.

The proposed master plan has been designed to adapt the the existing site conditions at Hoover to allow for gradual growth of the camp. The plan envisions two camps of 200 children each. Sites in each camp will include cabins, screened shelters, and tent areas. A reforestation program for Hoover is being developed.

Rich Mueller, An "Active" Member at the FIX-IT

On the way to breakfast Saturday morning, workers at the Spring FIX-IT had to rub their eyes to make sure they were not dreaming. Here it was SPRING and one of our members was out Skiing, roller skiing to be exact. Rich Mueller was warming up for the FIX-IT by roller skiing from Staff Villiage to Jimbo's curve and back.

Rich competes in amateur cross-country skiing races during the winter. He also helps out at Morton Arboretum as a National Ski Patrol Volunteer. To maintain his conditioning during the summer, Rich has turned to roller skiing two or three times a week. And where did Rich get hooked on Cross Country skiing? At Owasippe of course.

Rich topped it off Sunday by running to Whitehall and back before heading off to work at Carlen on the ranges.

One Company Sends OSA Many Members

This last work weekend saw many volunteers from all over the Chicago Area take time to give a hand. Did you know that one group of workers all hail from one company, Commonwealth Edison. Jerry Brown, Jim Hoiden, Mike and Rich Schlagel worked on the field sports ranges while Rich Mueller, Jim Roesel, and Jim Sault installed a new 100 amp circuit at the maintenance shop before heading out to the ranges. We can't forget Sheridan Nunn, an Edison retiree, who has long been active at Owasippe and is presently curator of the E. Urner Goodman Museum. The effects of these workers reflect their company's motto: "Doing Things Right 'at camp' And Proud Of It."

Staff Week Update 1986

by Bill Schaefer

Under the leadership of Bill Morrison, Reservation Director, Maurice Holman, Associate Reservation Director for Program, and Tom Harrington, Associate Reservation Director for Services, Owasippe experienced an outstanding staff week.

Basic issue of equipment, supplies and forms went smoothly, quickly and efficiently. Each of the camp staffs was able to get an early start on set-up of program areas. Thanks to the OSA, Camps Blackhawk and Carlen have new rifle ranges. Camp Wolverine got a brand new roof, lumber and all, and new lighting was installed in the North lodge. Ranger Mary Huffman installed electric lines and lighting to the Wolverine staff latrine and boat house. Don Studaven, new Director of Properties, supervised the repair of the Crown/Carlen main water supply line, where a break had been located during staff week. A number of the staff village cabins have new hide-a-beds and curtains. About staff week, Steve Horvath said, "Camp looks like it's fourth period instead of first." Bill Morrison said, "Everything is in ship-shape."

Across the Reservation, morale is very high. Cooperation among staffs and with Ad Center was outstanding. The commissioner and Assistant Camp Director training sessions were very helpful. Blackhawk Commissioner John Janis and Maurice Holman organized the training session. The training was highlighted by an

excellent presentation of the revamped trail program by Dave Schlicting, Bill Dopke, and Jim Richerson.

Scoutcraft training for all scoutcraft staff on the Reservation was led by Wolverine's Tom McKernan. Aquatic Training was done by Wolverine's Tom Petrauskas and Joanie Budzileni of Camp Reneker. Camp Robert Crown's Jo Jo Harrington headed up the ecology-conservation section. Wolverine's Jerry Lutz very ably trained the field sports departments.

The opening banquet, held at Blackhawk, started off with a "bang" as the old "Big Bear" cannon from Wolverine South (1979) was used to fire a cannon ball into Big Blue Lake. The cannon was placed next to the camp flag pole. As the entire Owasippe staff watched, the soaring shot symbolized Owasippe soaring into the next

25 years toward the Reservation's 100th anniversary in 2011!

Owasippe Earns "A" Rating

Continuing its streak of perfect ratings, Owasippe again earned the highest award possible in the BSA National Inspection. This summer, the inspection team was comprised of representatives from the Northwest Suburban Council, which operates Camp Makajawon in Wisconsin. Among the programs and services highlighted by the inspectors was Camp Reneker (Family Camp) for both its programs and facilities, Project Cope (Owasippe's high adventure outpost) and the PFM food services. Bill Morrison and Don Studaven were especially commended for the excellent work they did in preparing Owasippe for the summer.

The Galloping Grapevine

DOUBLE DEDUCTION . . . If you think **Mike and Carolyn Schlagel** were thrilled when they received the news that they were expecting their first child, imagine how thrilled they were when they received the news that they were expecting twins. Best wishes are extended to the Schlagels, who now reside in Lockport.

1ST-TIME HOMEOWNER . . . Congratulations to **Chuck Nagel** on the purchase of his new home in Oakbrook Terrace. He's only been looking for five years! Chuck will be moving in July. He's presently a Vice-President with the Automatic Electric Credit Union.

INTRODUCING . . . **Danielle Renee Andrich**, born on March 22 at 5:16 a.m. weighing in at 5 lbs. 10 oz. Kudos go to her proud parents, **Curt and Terry**, on their firstborn. They live in, (Get this!) Spotsylvania, Virginia, practically in the middle of a Civil War battlefield! They all hope to join us at our Pizza Nite in November.

STAMPS FOR CAMP . . . On the OSA's behalf, **Joe Sener and Phil (Chauncey) Niziol** recently purchased 5 Igloo Thermoses (5 gallon) and 5 large flashlights for the section camps at Owasippe. These were presented to the camp directors at the opening breakfast of staff week. Also presented were rakes and shovels. These items were made possible by S&H green stamp donations made over the last two years. Thank you all, donors, especially the ladies at Camp Reneker!

BACK ON STAFF . . . **Rich Anderson** has recently been hired as the 1986 aquatic director at Camp Carlen. Rich

appears at Owasippe every few years, first as sailing base director at Blackhawk in 1974, then as aquatic director at Blackhawk in 1981. Glad you could make it back, Rich.

SHOP N SHARE RESULTS . . . The Jewel Shop N Share on May 5-7 yielded a check to the OSA for \$46.38, which represented the purchases of \$927.40 among 24 members and friends. Results from the later May 19-21 Dominick Days still were not available. Forthcoming benefits are on August 25-27 (Dominicks). Our meager benefit proceeds can obviously be enlarged if more members, their friends and relatives, use our certificates on these designated shopping days.

A LOST SOUL FOUND . . . Remember a camp director in the late 60s-early 70s that very closely resembled Jerry Lewis in both appearance and wit? For a while, he was the district executive for Mohawk (or was it Southwest) District on Chicago's southwest side. You've probably now realized that we're talking about **George Warta**, who, after he transferred from Chicago, became a D.E. with the Philadelphia Council. After a brief stint there, George was introduced to an opportunity to open up his own recreation vehicle business in Philly (Must have been right around energy crisis time). He now is a Deputy Sheriff with the Philadelphia Sheriff's Department.

STIHL THE EDGAR! . . . **Edgar Wolff-Klammer** recently spent two weeks in Sweden and West Germany at the expense of his employer, Underwriter's Laboratories, for whom he tested and inspected chain

saws at a number of manufacturers, most notably Stihl in Stuttgart. Edgar is an Engineering Assistant with U.L. and hopes to begin studies soon for his P.E. (Professional Engineer) designation.

WHERE'S PAT? ... If you're looking for **Pat Foster** at camp this summer, you won't find him! For once in a long time, he'll be out enjoying his summer in his home town of Dixon (of Ronald Reagan acclaim) and on the road. You should know, however, that since the end of camp in '85, Pat has spent roughly 8 weeks at Owasippe, organizing inventory, ordering goods for '86, and designing anniversary wares. You may not see him, but his presence has made its mark! Replacing Pat in the Trading Post this year is Chris (Sanchez) Drazba, who is a veteran Owasippe Staffer and a former member of the OSA Board of Directors. Good luck, Chris.

IS THERE A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE? ... **Pat Monahan** has recently completed the requirements for his PhD in English Education at Northwestern University. Dr. Monahan (Oh My!) is presently Department Chairman of English at Downers Grove South High School.

OSA NUPTIAL ... Congrats and best wishes to **Jim Reichel** and **Kathleen Hamilton** who were married on June 14. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii and returned just in time to help out at our June garage sale.

Tent City: The Home of the Brave

by Pat Monahan

I heard a story about Tent City last summer, perhaps it's even true. In any case, it's just right, I think.

It seems a young trucker had decided to enlist in the army, spontaneously, one of those I-can't-wait-until-the-end-of-the-summer, I'd-better-start-my-life-right-now decisions. He had a girl, of course, and so he proposed. "Marry me now," he pleaded, "I'm leaving to enlist tomorrow." And she did. And so they honeymooned (You see it coming, I'm sure) in Tent City.

I'm told the wedding went off without a hitch, but the honeymoon was another story. The trucker's roommate in the City, it seems, objected to the arrangement. After all, why should he be evicted for an evening just because his tent partner got married? After much complaining, he agreed to move out, one night only. As a wedding gift, he would sleep in his truck.

I like that story; it's pure Tent City. For those who have never visited Tent City, it's located behind Food Prep and borders the Wolverine (North) archery range. Tent City houses unmarried ad center staff and truckers.

A HELPING HAND (AND MOUTH) ... In May, **Larry Gersch** again instructed and certified some of the '86 Owasippe staff in C>P>R> Good job, Lar!

RIGHT, CARL ... **Carl and Marilyn Young** are always bragging about Hyerdall's restaurant in Bridgman, Mich., on the way up to Owasippe. So ... last year a group of staff stopped by to sample the Young's favorite eatin' spot for some "home cookin'." No one could find the place. After Carl insisted that Hyerdall's is NOT just one of the many Owasippe legends, some staff tried again in June, 1986. This time, these four, starving staff found the place. It was closed for the day. Perhaps Carl should plan a bus tour, but he better phone ahead for reservations.

STRANGE, BUT TRUE ... All four of the Owasippe Camp Directors appointed for 1986 once served on the same staff. In 1981, at Wolverine, **Ed Kinnerk**, now Director at Blackhawk, was assistant camp director. **Mike Finnegan**, now C.D. at Crown, was a commissioner. **Bill Schaefer**, now director at Wolverine, was also C.D. then. **Tom Janiak**, who had to cancel this May as C. D. at Carlen, was the other commissioner. **Jim Gallagher** has since replaced Tom. The '81 staff at Wolverine must have really been terrific!

I lived in the city for a week one year or a year one week, and I didn't enjoy it. After living so long in section camps, in areas where stereos boomed and campfires roared, I was a bit uncomfortable in a residence where people left in the morning and didn't return until night. I learned quickly that here was a place where you didn't share the soap.

My attitude toward the City was formulated long before I visited it by Tiny, its most distinguished citizen. Jack lived for years in the cabin closest to the road because, he once explained to me, he didn't have to enter the City that way. He considered his cabin a suburb, I suppose. "The City stinks," I remember him saying, and so he showered at Wolverine South.

I had heard before I visited it that Tent City was a pit, the absolute worst accommodations at Owasippe, and I believed this rumor, though I shudder now to imagine that anyone could live in conditions worse than some of those I experienced while on staff. I once lived in a cabin which had experienced a Cheeto fight. For weeks my roommates and I argued about who had started the fight and who should clean up the mess. With each passing day, the cheetos, the most absorbent party snack since Owasippe waffles, puffed up larger, until we felt like we

were wadding in Owasispe Lake. And Tent City was, I was certain, worse.

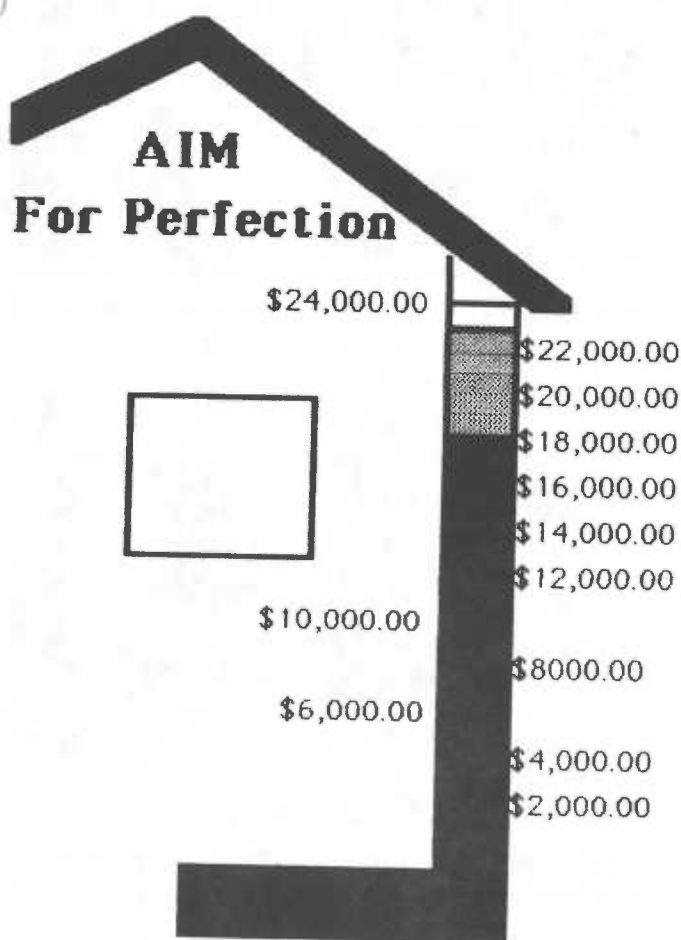
I'm not entirely sure how Tent City received its name. Elsewhere on the Reservation, camp staffs lived on staff rows (even where the buildings were arranged in a circle). Perhaps it was the closeness to Ad Center, the thriving hub of Owasispe, that earned the City its name. I note with interest, however, that married staff now live in the Village, a better place to raise children, I'm sure, than in the City. The Village is to Tent City what Wilmette is to Chicago. One Reservation Director, alarmed by the slovenly appearance of Tent City, created the position of Tent City Mayor, a wholly unceremonious job, the recipient of which organized the maintenance of the john. One Tent City Mayor's name was, appropriately, Scumdog.

When I was thinking about writing this article last April, I toured Tent City. I expected to be horrified by its worn-down conditions, certain that the depravity of its residents would be evident in the decay of its buildings. I wasn't. The cabins are roofed, unlike other staff rows at Owasispe, and so they remain in good condition. I saw instead a pretty nice place, not unlike some of the nicer staff rows in which I lived. In fact, the place looked just

like a normal staff row. I loved the nicknames scratched and branded on the walls: Twig, Nervour N, Goofy, Big Rog, Skunk, J.D., Pukin Jim, and my favorite, Skorchman 83.

I saw also the pretentious cabin, the one remodeled to outshine the others (There's one in every row.) This cabin had a porch which over looked the North range. Unfortunately, the porch was built on the back of the cabin, without access, and so the owner had to walk around the building to enjoy it. The cabin boasted a television antenna and a newspaper box—a stop surely on the *USA Today* route. I found very few messages on the walls, only one that rang true with me. "Ed and Chuck lived in this dump 84."

So to finish my story about the trucker. In his haste to marry, he neglected to tell his parents about his impending marriage nor did he invite them to the ceremony. When he did not return home on the night of the wedding (his parents had planned a going-away party), his parents notified the police, who found him and his bride at Owasispe. The embarrassed young man left the next morning for the draft board, where he was later rejected for military service. Like I said, that's pure Tent City.



Two Ranges Down; Two To Go

We have completed our first two ranges at Blackhawk and Carlen and came in slightly below budget, at \$13,300.00. This represents only our cost in materials and does not represent the amount it would cost to construct such buildings at Owasispe, which we estimate to be approximately \$20,000.00. We are now planning the renovation of the ranges at Camps Wolverine and Robert Crown. Reinhard Plaut and Bob Bavirsha are now visiting these camps and working up detailed plans for our '87 Spring FIX-IT. We need only \$1200.00 more in pledges to reach our two-year goal. Help us today by making a donation to the project. We encourage those who have not yet redeemed pledges to do so soon. Members who make donations to the project are eligible to receive premiums. Contributors of \$250.00 or more will receive an attractive OSA jacket as well as an OSA cap (\$100.00) and OSA travel mug (\$50.00). Donors of \$500.00 will also receive two tickets to our annual March dinner dance. Contributors of \$1000.00 will receive additionally a stainless steel inscribed plaque.



Picture Time



Early morning at Blackhawk with the work before us



Crews at work, building the frame and the railings



One wall rising; the beginnings of a building



Three walls up; Bob Bavirsha directs each crew as the building forms around him.



Lunch at Blackhawk; Long enough to eat, pose for a photo and then hurry back to work



A completed building with the roofing begun; Corky pauses for a photo.

Do You Remember

by Father John

- . . when it took a minimum of six hours to race to camp by car?
- . . when Scoutmasters had to walk along the back roads of camp to have a smoke? (It was forbidden around the boys.)
- . . when the hot-pack food was delivered by Divco truck?
- . . when the great copper vat of bug juice at Beard never ran dry?
- . . when war canoe races were held every Sunday on Owasippe Lake?
- . . when "O" books were required to record camp achievements?
- . . when scouts were not allowed to phone home?
- . . when a camp director had to live in his camp for 6 days a week (He could only visit his family on his day off)?
- . . when Town Run was an open truck with wooden benches?
- . . when the "Owasippe Skipper" was a rare and honored award because few could master a sailing canoe?
- . . when the Lower Lake scouts walked the dusty trail from Scout Crossing to their camps, while those for Blackhawk were stuffed onto open stake trucks for the 10 mile ride?
- . . when the train to camp had windows which wouldn't open and water coolers without water?
- . . when hot toast was served in dining halls?
- . . when a truck was used to power the sawmill at "Double O"?
- . . when each camp was run by bugle calls?
- . . when both Whitehall and Montague had movie theatres?
- . . when scouts could attend Winter and/or Spring Camp?
- . . when there was a toboggan slide at the extreme eastern edge of Blackhawk?
- . . when no one ever went to camp for less than two weeks?
- . . when scouts went to camp via Goodrich Line excursion boats and hiked to camp from White Lake while their luggage went by horse-drawn wagon?
- . . when there were so many two-tracks leading into Wilderness one could get lost?
- . . when Wolverine North had an outdoor movie theatre?
- . . when all the "good" roads at Owasippe were gravel?
- . . when the camp offices were crammed into the lodge of the old hunt club?
- . . when you had to get a message to "Double O," you walked over and if it were an emergency you ran?
- . . when scouts camped at Old Owasippe's grave and listened to ghost stories in the misty woods by Silver Creek?
- . . when Jack Copeland used to play and play and play on the piano in the Beard dining Hall and how we all sang along? . . when Deuces Wild was on dry land?
- . . when scouts lived in double-decker 4-boy tents?
- . . when each tent was issued a kerosene lantern, which had to be cleaned daily?
- . . when a red lantern hung at the door of each Kybo?
- . . when Family Camp had an all-male staff?
- . . when a hike to Headwaters (of Silver Creek) was a great adventure?
- . . when Camp Manistee was?
- . . when all scouts had to take a two-hour exploration hike, with a buddy, around their respective camps?
- . . when all canoe trips ended in Whitehall?
- . . when each camp had its own nature pond?
- . . when on the fourth of July Owasippe Lake was ringed with Arrow men holding red fuses while fireworks were shot off?



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(PLEASE PRINT)

I hereby submit my request
to register as a member of
the OSA and offer my support
of the OSA purpose.

Name _____

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Calendar of Upcoming OSA Events

August 2
75th Anniversary Homecoming
Owasippe

August 24
Family Picnic
Theodore Stone Woods

Grove #1
LaGrange

October 10-13
Owasippe Fall FIX-IT
& Family Weekend
Family Camp

November 28
Pizza Night
TBA

December 14
Children's Christmas Party
Camp Kiwanis
March 7
Annual Meeting & Dinner Dance
Giannotti's Banquet Hall
Forest Park

**We are proud to be part
of Owasippe's heritage.**

**Our best wishes for con-
tinued success in camping
and serving the youth of
America**



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